



VOICE OF MISSIONS

BY WAY OF THE CROSS

ATLANTA, GEORGIA, JANUARY, 1894.

VOL. II.

AFRICA.

Liberia, Africa, The Land of Promise.
Wealth Untold Awaits the Hand
of Enterprise and Skilled
Labor. Everything
Heart can Wish for,
Is in Store.

BY GEORGE R. STETSON.

LIBERIAN PRODUCTS.

Liberia is in the tropics; her territory stretches along the western coast of Africa, in latitude 4 to 7 deg. north, from the river San Pedro to Cape Mount, a distance of about four hundred miles, its monotonous outline being occasionally broken by a projecting cape or river's mouth.

From the low-lying plain bordering the sea the land gradually rises toward the range of the Kong mountains, the source of the Liberian rivers, and to a boundary still undetermined in the hinterland. She can boast of no rail or public roads or telegraph lines. Her means of communication are her numerous rivers and numberless footpaths, and her beasts of burden are men and women. Her vast treasures of vegetable and mineral wealth still lie in a great measure undeveloped; her interior is still unknown and patiently waiting for the touch of the magician's wand; the commercial enterprise of the American or European, or of her own children, the educated Americo-Africans.

Liberia's exports, when compared with the abundance and variety and great value of her natural products suitable for exportation, are extremely insignificant. They are not only insignificant in number, but in value; and consist chiefly of palm oil, palm kernels, caoutchouc, coffee and coffee plants, redwood, ivory (small quantity), ginger, calabash beans, and groundnuts also in a small quantity, which is more remarkable as from Sierra Leone and Senegambia, close by, the export of groundnuts reaches 110,000 tons or more annually.

Liberia's imports very much exceed her exports and comprise food and other products to which her climate and soil are perfectly adapted. Among these articles rice, which is an indigenous native culture, takes the first rank, followed by tobacco, castor-oil, etc. Drinks play a remarkable large role in the inventory, as they do everywhere in Africa, and include beer, wine, and large quantities of gin. It is estimated that ten millions of gallons of spirits are annually imported into Africa, to which the native production of wine, beer, and spirits is to be added.

Tobacco leaves are used as currency in Liberia—one leaf being current for two cents, one "head" for ten cents. One "bar" represents six "heads," and one "head" six to twelve leaves.

LIBERIAN PRODUCTS SUITABLE FOR EXPORT, BUT NOT EXPORTED.

Tobacco.—Mr. Christy, of London, is confident that Turkish tobacco could be grown in Liberia.

Indigo.

Caoutchouc in great quantity, but much neglected.

Vogel's African rubber tree is indigenous; it grows 20 to 30 feet in height, bearing leaves 6 to 8 inches in length and 3 to 5 in breadth; it can be tapped at five years of age. Morsa, Warne & Co., of London, report very highly on the quality of this rubber. The Landophila florida, which is perhaps the best known rubber plant, is also indigenous and yields a quicker return than the Para and other rubber plants, as it can be tapped at three years of age, whereas the Para tree cannot be tapped under twenty-five years of age. Johnston reports having found this plant at the base of the Kili-njaro, two thousand feet above sea. The best kinds of rubber trees, remarks Mr. Christy, are now being destroyed in such numbers as will necessitate a re-production by planting. In Liberia, however, at this moment rubber-producing trees and vines exist in great profusion, but the crop is much neglected.

Baboot bark (*Acacia arabica*), whose habitat is India, Egypt, Arabia, and from the Senegal to the Cape (A. Heraud).—The bark yields a large percentage of tannic acid, the best quality of which gives a good color and texture to leather. Not only the bark, but the fruit and twigs could be used for the manufacture of the extract.

Pritch comfrey, a forage plant (*Syphium aspernum*) yielding from sixty to one hundred and fifty tons per acre, and well known in Ceylon, India, and South Africa, could be easily grown in Liberia.

Kola-nuts (*Sterculia acuminata*).—The kola is considerably exported from other parts of Africa. It has some of the properties of coffee, and surpasses all known fruits in alkaloids. It contains more tannin than coffee or tea, quite an amount of theobromine, and three times as much strength as coffee. It is an active stimulant, allays thirst, augments the appetite, promotes digestion, and is a general tonic.

The natives are extremely fond of the kola, and in the Woloff language it is called the Kola-Bah, or the "good doing" kola. It is preferred to coffee,

and among the Nagos of the Niger it is offered as a pledge of friendship, which is voiced in their proverb:

"Angie makes the arrows to fly from the gun, but great words draw the kola nut from the sack."

Its popular properties are tonic and stimulative. "A nut, or even half a nut, will enable one to go without food and support fatigue for twenty-four hours or more. It is an excellent nerve tonic, and is especially effective in keeping the brain clear and active at night," and is said to remove immobility and stupidity due to drunkenness.

The tree begins to bear in seven years, and a plantation in full bearing will yield according to Mr. Fawcett, \$4,000 per acre.

The kola nut should be cultivated as coffee is in Liberia, as it is unquestionably a plant of great commercial importance. The West African variety is also indigenous with other varieties in East Africa.

Cassava is well known as a food product, tapioca being one of its forms. It is claimed that hydrocyanic acid can be procured from its roots, and that from them when boiled, a highly antiseptic liquor is obtained, useful in preserving meats and for other purposes.

Experts assert that it will take the place of Indian corn as a source of starch for the manufacture of glucose.

Arrowroot.—The arrowroot culture is now extensively carried on in Australia, the variety used there being the Muranata arundinacea.

Castor-oil.—The plant (*Ricinus communis*) from which it is derived, is indigenous and abundant.

Sugar from the cane or from sorghum (*Sorghum vulgare*), which in different parts of Africa is called Katir corn, Negro cane, bushel maize, Moorish millet, durra, and ash.

The product of sugar is next in importance to coffee in Liberia, but the farmers lack the capital to work the cane or to distill rum.

Pawpaw (*Carica papaya*).—A melon tree, indigenous, and growing everywhere, and a most valuable plant for culinary purposes, medicine and food.

Mr. Hughes, in History of Barbadoes, says the juice is so penetrating a nature that if the unripe peeled fruit be boiled with the toughest old salted meat it becomes soft and tender.

Buttikofer (*Hibiscus aus Liberia*) concurs in this statement, and further remarks that the milk which produces this result could be harvested and exported for that purpose. The leaves are used as a substitute for soap.

Among the other products adapted for export are malaibar pepper, cretan tatar, alligator pepper, white-onk bark, cherry bark, cocoa (which grows well, but is rarely cultivated), ginger, tamarind, bananas, oranges, mandarin shaddock, lemons, guavas, dyes of various colors, monkey and other skins, ebony, redwood and other native woods, very hard, of various colors, and taking a fine finish.

Fibrous Plants.—Among the numerous textiles are cotton (indigenous and of remarkable quality), rind of leaves of wine palm, leaves of Pandanus palm, suitable for hats, etc., bamboo grasses, and rushes of various kinds; leaves of the Anana dragon, suitable for sewing-threads and cords.

Minerals.—Iron, copper ore, silver, and quicksilver.

Herr Buttikofer reports having seen a bottle of native quicksilver at one of the factories or trading stations, and is of the opinion that the geological conditions are favorable for gold.

A LIBERIAN ELDERDADO.

It is unfortunate that Herr Buttikofer had no time to explore the hinterland for the purpose of confirming the most remarkable report made by Mr. Anderson, a Liberian engineer, of that region, in his notes published some years since under the title of "A Journey to Musrara." A Mandengue village in the interior of Liberia. The Mandengues, as before mentioned, are an extremely intelligent native Muselman race, reading and writing Arabic as well as their own language. The territory and people are claimed by Liberia; but with the Liberians, because of the absence of rail or other roads, and beasts of burden as well as commercial enterprise, they have little or no communication. Their crude products, including gold, go to Sierra Leone and the French traders of the Segeal.

Buttikofer asserts that France has recently made a commercial treaty directly with the Mandengues.

Mr. Anderson was the first Liberian who ever attempted a journey to the "hinterland" and possibly the last: no known attempt having been made to verify his remarkable statements of what he saw there. He places Musrara in latitude 8 degrees 27' 11" and in longitude 8 degrees 24' 30" and estimates its elevation at 2,000 feet above the sea, and its population at the time as seven or eight thousand.

It is situated on the Mandengue plain or plateau, which he describes as terraced, at the base of the Kong mountains. He found the land to be of the highest fertility, but lightly wooded, and utilized by numerous large plantations of rice, cotton and millet.

The Mandengues, he says, made every attempt to trade; they took me to their houses and opened small leather bags, which each contained ten or fifteen large twisted gold rings.

Gold was worn extravagantly by the Mandengue women; their earnings were so large and heavy as to require a narrow piece of leather to brace them up to their headbands. Gold, he continues, is certainly abundant. "I gave twelve sheets of writing paper and four yards of calico for a large gold twisted ring of perfectly pure metal."

Iron also abounds. "At a distance of one hundred and forty miles, in a direct line north-easterly from Grand Bassa, our road led through a district which was a solid mass of iron ore. The iron was so pure that the road leading through it was a polished metal pathway, smoothed over by the constant tread of travelers, and in the dry and hot season it becomes so thoroughly heated by the sun as to be hardly treadable. We occupied three hours and a half in passing over those hills and plains of metal."

At Ballatash, one hundred and fifty miles from Grand Bassa, we were taken to some outlying villages northwest of Ballatash, at the foot of some high hills. Here the Mandengues were busy smelting iron. The furnaces were built of clay, of a conical form, and from five to six feet in height, having clay pipes in groups of two or three, close to the bottom, for the purpose of draught. Charcoal and iron were put in at the top, and at the bottom an opening was provided for the "slag" and other impurities."

The chief articles of trade were gold, bullocks, hides, horses, ivory, tobacco, fine leather, and an infinite variety of domestic articles and country cloths, of every variety of texture and color.

In 1887 it was reported to Herr Buttikofer of this region that elephants were plenty and large, and roaming in herds of ten or twelve, and that cows, horses, goats, and smooth-haired sheep were abundant.

As an evidence of the material progress of the Mandengues, Anderson speaks of their companies of organized cavalry, with a complete horse equipment.

The comfort of the climate and the altitude of the region may be inferred from the fact that horses and cattle exist, and that on the 16th of December, the tropical summer, Mr. Anderson's thermometer indicated but 52 deg. F. at 4 a.m.

It is possible that these statements, so positively made and in part confirmed by circumstantial evidence, are to be taken cum grano salis; but the probabilities of their truth are quite strong, as Mr. Anderson is a well-known resident of Monrovia, a civil engineer, of good reputation, and had no apparent motive for exaggeration. We have, however, independent evidence that gold is to be found on the upper Siene.

The Mandengues are at the moment in possession of gold, as they take it to the Sierra Leone for barter. The most extraordinary feature is that neither in Liberia, England, or America, has any known effort been made to confirm these tales of a new El Dorado.

Liberian Medicinal Plants.—Among the many medicinal plants of Liberia and the tropics the pawpaw before spoken of has, in addition to its food and culinary, a medicinal value. Its active principle is papayotin (Pockholts), which will dissolve an equal weight of flesh and albumen, and the flesh membranes of croup and diphtheritis are claimed to be destroyed by it. It is also employed in splenic and hepatic enlargements.

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LIBERIAN COFFEE.

Of all the manifold products of Liberia and tropical Africa, the one to which the most care and attention has been given, and consequently the one which has been up to the present time most thoroughly developed, is the coffee plant.

In Mr. Christy's opinion, the Liberian coffee plant is likely to surpass and supplant that of Arabia, as it flourishes equally well on high or low land. It has a more vigorous growth than the Ceylon plant, bears exposure

better, has a larger yield (20 to 24 pounds, the full-grown tree), a larger berry, a greater freedom from disease.

A Ceylon planter makes the statement that an estate of twenty or thirty acres of Liberian coffee will yield as much as one of two or three hundred acres of Arabia or Ceylon. Its quality is also said by experts to be greatly susceptible to improvement.

Buttikofer is of the opinion that if the Liberian farmers had more capital they could cure their product better and obtain a better price. Unquestionably, the prejudice against Liberian coffee because of its rank flavor, which is sometimes encountered, is almost entirely due to its being hurried to market, insufficiently cured, to meet the pressing necessities of the market; but, in spite of these drawbacks, such is the favor with which the plant is regarded, that in answer to the daily increasing demands, it is not only sent to all parts of the African continent, but to India, Ceylon, and other foreign countries.

PRODUCTS OF INTERIOR TROPICAL AFRICA.

If we have exhausted the catalogue of Liberia's commonly known products, we have by no means completed the list of those valuable plants which are comparatively unknown, or of those non-indigenous plants to which her climate is adapted.

The chief articles of trade were gold, bullocks, hides, horses, ivory, tobacco, fine leather, and an infinite variety of domestic articles and country cloths, of every variety of texture and color.

If we have exhausted the catalogue of the Independent State of the Congo, the number of porters who would consent to serve the Europeans was not so great as to warrant the sending of a large number of natives to work in the mines.

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Published by the Missionary Department of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. It is issued monthly and bi-monthly from Atlanta, Ga., United States of America, and single copies \$1.00. It will contain "Missions" news from our Home and Foreign Mission masters, and what missionaries are doing in all parts of the world to bring the nations to Christ. Our "Voice of Missions" will contain items also relative to the progress being made throughout the world by the African races and their descendants elsewhere.

Bishops, Presiding Elders, and Ministers of the Church, and their wives are Agents for the Voice of Missions.

Address Mrs. G. E. Young, Secretary, 30 Young street, Atlanta, Ga., who will rec^p for all money. Missionary items and communications for the editor will be addressed to her; as the editors will often be absent from the office.

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We earnestly invoke the aid of the minister's wives, especially, in making this mighty weapon for the work of the Master. We can do more than the more cheerful, as a woman was the first missionary to announce to the world the resurrection of its redeemer. Sister, will you join and help, as the sister of Moses joined with him?

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A PERILOUS MISSIONARY TOUR.

The Story of a Woman's Heroic Attempt to Carry the Gospel into Tibet.
Miss Annie R. Taylor's Life Repeatedly Endangered by Poison, Cold, Stars, Snow and Brigands.

Before many more years have passed, Tibet, the mysterious "Roof of the World," as it has been called by reason of its snowy altitude, will have become evangelized. During long centuries, this strangely secluded country, concerning which the civilized world, even yet knows very little, has been kept almost hermetically sealed to all other nations than the Chinese. It lies to the north-east of India, and west of China, and has about three times the area of France, with great ranges of mountains and the loftiest table lands on the globe. Owing to strict prohibition, very few white travellers have ever attempted to penetrate to Inner Tibet, and of those who have reached Lhasa, the capital, only two have returned alive to tell their experiences.

It fell to the lot of a Christian woman—Miss Annie R. Taylor, of the China Inland Mission—to be the first to cross the frontier bearing the Gospel message. Miss Taylor, who has now been engaged nine years in missionary work, had been located for a time at Tan-Chau, in China, near the Tibetan frontier, being the first English missionary in that city. In 1887 she visited the Great Lama monastery of Kumbum, beyond which lay the vast unevangelized land that seemed to beckon her forward. After much consideration, she resolved to make the attempt to penetrate Central Asia, and if possible reach Lhasa, the sacred city of the Lamas and the capital of Tibet. With this view she went to Darjeeling on the Bengal frontier, and at a little Tibetan village nearby she studied the language and customs of the country she was about to enter. She set out in 1888 on her journey, trusting to the Lord for protection from danger. After several adventures she reached a Tibetan fort near Kamtang, and here the hostilities of the natives toward foreigners began to be apparent. They "prayed her dead," according to the native custom but she lived and still pushed on. The wife of a chief attempted to poison her by mixing arsenite with her food and the native chiefs commanded her to return to the border, but she succeeded in securing the services of a faithful servant named Pontso—a native of Lhasa and her first Tibetan convert—and with his aid she still determined to press onward.

A year was spent on the frontier near Tan-chau before she made her next attempt. In the care of a Chinese Mohammedan named Noga, and his friendly wife, Miss Taylor with four servants and Pontso, set out for the interior. Noga proved to be a mercenary rascal who had planned to rob and murder her. Soon after leaving Tan-chau, the party encountered eight brigands, but the enemy were driven off after a sharp but bloodless fusillade. Soon thereafter, a force of two hundred brigands attacked them. Two of the travelers were killed and eight wounded, while nearly all their property was seized, but Miss Taylor and Pontso succeeded in escaping. Noga's persecution continued, however, for he attempted to stir up the natives to waylay and kill her, and to excite their cupidity, he circulated stories that she carried precious stones concealed in her robes. At this time she felt very strongly the divine protecting hand and had many providential escapes from deadly perils. On one occasion for three days and nights, with her servant, Pontso, she lost her way in the mountains, finding afterwards that this had been God's method of sheltering them from a deliberate attempt at murder planned by Noga. When three days' journey from Lhasa, she was arrested by Tibetan soldiers and brought before an official who advised her to return, adding that if she persisted in going on, he would be executed for allowing her to proceed. The missionary, having exhausted every possible resource, and not wishing to have the responsibility of any man's blood upon her head, was thus compelled to set her face away from her possessions.

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 19th 1893.

Rev. John M. Henderson, the pastor of our great church in Detroit, Mich., is a great and grand young man, and will one day be a master in the church; but he knows as well as we do that the criticism referred to was just in every particular. If the condition of our people in Michigan be as poverty-stricken as he represents it, how can we oppose African emigration, Mexican emigration, or emigration anywhere, is a mystery. Anywhere, Lord, rather than remain here, should be his daily talk, song and prayer. I have just returned from a visit to Troy, Ala., where one of Bishop Grant's conferences was in session, and ministers by the score raised from fifty to seventy-five, ninety and ninety-five per cent. dollar money, one brother in another conference, who had a hundred and three members, brought a hundred and five dollars. We are proud of the Michigan Conference. It has few equals and no superiors for its size in our church, in point of general intelligence and in several instances consummate ability, but the idea of one Presiding Elder in the Macon Conference raising seven hundred dollars, another nine hundred, another ten hundred, and another eleven hundred, and another twelve hundred, and another thirteen hundred, and another fifteen hundred dollars, in four instances with less members than the Michigan Conference, is a matter of serious reflection.

O. John, quit trying to defend what you can't and wake up, or else get up and go to Africa.

Great Parade in Savannah.

Some six thousand colored people, including nine hundred military, with colored lieutenants, captains, majors and a colonel, paraded the streets of Savannah, and the colored artillery fired salutes in the city park, and were addressed in a speech by Bishop Turner for two hours and a half on New Year's Day, according to the report of the Savannah Daily Morning News and passed resolutions of gratitude to the governor and legislature for enacting laws against mobs and lynchings.

Here in Atlanta also, the military paraded the streets and thousands gathered at Bethel A. M. E. church to hear an able and eloquent speech from Prof. Bowen, of Gammon Theological Seminary.

trading, but are absolutely truthful in dealing with an enemy. The Gollocks never rob within their own territory, and bribery is unknown there. Throughout Tibet, a woman is safe from violence, whether a foreigner or not. The climate is so intensely cold that ten degrees as soon pour out, and cooking is exceedingly difficult.

Miss Taylor's experience, far from detracting, has rather stimulated the zealous desire of other missionaries to continue in Tibet the Gospel work she began. Miss Taylor herself is now agitating for a Tibetan Mission on the lines of the China Inland Mission, and she proposes that twelve missionaries—all men and six of them medical missionaries—be the advance guard. She has no desire that other women should be subjected to perils like those she experienced.

REPLY OF REV. JOHN M. HENDERSON
SONA. M.

To the Editorial of Bishop Turner in the Voice of Missionaries.

My EDITOR.—However much is said about the spirit of melancholy that seeps out through your utterances, whatever may be the general disappointment of your style, I have never heard of your being small-minded or cowardly, and am, therefore, confident of having a fair chance to defend myself against what seems to be an unjust personal attack made editorially by you.

Sometime ago you charged some of the pastors of the Michigan conference of the crime (?) of receiving enormous salaries and selfishly making but small financial returns to the Connection. You directly questioned our loyalty by such an assertion.

If you wish to take advantage of the fact that you are an editor and a Bishop and misrepresent us, of course we are defenceless; but if you are the big and great man everyone takes you to be you will at least give us a chance to talk out.

I hear you laugh and say 'go ahead.'

The good natured sound of your laughter and the heartiness of your tone have already dissipated my anger and made me feel half ashamed of my earnestness. I guess that is just the reason why you can do and say so many things that nobody else dare.

But I won't be laughed out of court. You know that your reference to our big salaries was but a piece of humor.

You are making sport of our steady coats and slim purses, and some of us have been green enough to swallow the flattery and feel for a time that we were the well-paid fellows you styled us. But paying unpaid debts and money wants unsatisfied because of poverty and a dozen other sure signs have brought the softest of us to realize that we are but poor fellows.

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Tons of Money.

There is probably no more interesting place in the treasury department than the immense vaults in the treasurer's office, where so much gold, silver and United States currency are stored. The immense travel eastward from the world's fair, in addition to the ordinary number of sightseers, has taxed the capacity of the treasury guides to the utmost.

The most frequent question asked of these guides is the amount of money stored in the vaults. For a ready answer to these questions the office has prepared a brief printed statement showing the amount and description of the contents of each of the eight vaults. These are kept by many of the visitors as souvenirs of their trip to Washington. The figures presented show that there is stored in the vaults a total of \$742,193,000, the part consisting of coin weighing about five thousand tons. The following are the amounts and description of the money in the eight vaults:

Standard silver dollars, \$149,860,000; gold coin, \$11,500,000; fractional silver, \$383,000; national bank notes received for redemption, \$3,500,000; mixed moneys received for daily use, \$1,000,000; bonds held as security for national bank circulation, \$250,000,000; held as a reverse to replace worn and mutilated notes unfit for circulation, \$325,000,000.

Laugh.

There is absolutely nothing that will help you bear the ills of life so well as a good laugh. Laugh all you can. If the clothes-lines break, the cat tips over the milk and the dog slopes with the roast, if the children fall into the mud simultaneously with the advent of clean aprons, if the new girl quits in the middle of housecleaning, and though you search the earth with candles you find none other to take her place; if the neighbor in whom you have trusted goes back on you and keeps chickens, if the chariot wheels of the uninited guest draw near when you are out of provender and the gapping of your empty purse is like the unfilled mouth of a young robin, take courage if you have enough sunshine in your heart to keep a laugh on your lips.—*Chicago Post*.

An old lady who has seen several generations pass in review before her eyes, apropos of the modern girl, that what she should have is a free mind, with reserved manners, and goodness, balanced by a sense of humor.

Keep Your Weather Eye Open.
Fraud loves a shilling mark. Occasionally spurious imitations spring up from Hosteller's Stomach Bitters, the great American medicine for chills and fevers, rheumatism, astigmatism, biliousness, nervousness, neuralgia, rheumatism and kidney disorder. These imitations are usually sold under different names, and are often the firm signature on the genuine label and vignette of St. George and the dragon.

There is one good thing about a long prayer—the sinner.

Ladies needing a tonic or children who want building up, should take Brown's Iron Bitters. It is pleasant to take, cures Malaria, Indigestion, Biliousness, Liver Complaints, makes the blood rich and pure.

If you are "the salt of the earth," don't get salted.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Cataract that cannot be cured by Hall's Castor Oil.

We, the undersigned, have known F. J. Chapman for the last 15 years, and believe him perfectly honorable in all business transactions. We are willing to carry out any obligation made by his firm.

WATER & TAUZI, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo,
WALDING, KINNAN & MARVIN, Wholesale Druggists, Toledo, Ohio.

Hall's Castor Oil taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and minute surfaces of the system. Testimonials sent free, 10c per bottle. Sold by all Druggists.

Don't lie on your back while asleep, nor on your feet while awake.

Many persons are broken down from over-work or household care. Brown's Iron Bitters rebuilds the system, aids digestion, relieves biliousness, liver complaints. A splendid tonic for women and children.

In these days expenses are like briars in your pathway—thus need cutting down.

A Cough, Cold or Sore Throat should not be neglected. Brown's Iron Bitters are a simple remedy, and give prompt relief. It heals a box.

If afflicted with sore eyes use Dr. Isaac Thompson's Eye-Water. Pills at 20c per bottle. Beecham's Pills instead of sloshy mineral water. Beecham's—no others. 20c a box.

Mrs. Orinetta E. Allen
Salem, Mich.

Liver and Kidney

trouble caused me to suffer all but death. Eight weeks I lived on brandy and beef tea. The doctor said he had not a ray of hope for my recovery.

As soon as I recovered I began to take

HOOD'S BARASPARAINE, and from the first day I was relieved and am now able to assist my mother in her house-work. I owe my life to Hood's Barasparaine.

ORTENCIA E. ALLEN. HOOD'S CURES.

Head's Pill cure takes a sick headache, indigestion, biliousness. Sold by all druggists.

"August Flower"

Miss C. G. McCLEAVE, School-

teacher, 753 Park Place, Elmira, N. Y.

"This Spring while away from home teaching my first term in a country school I was perfectly wretched with that human agony called dyspepsia. After dieting for two weeks and getting no better, a friend wrote me, suggesting that I take August Flower. The very next day I purchased a bottle. I am delighted to say that August Flower helped me so that I have quite recovered from my indisposition."

ISLAM IN AFRICA.

"I have lately read communication from the West Coast of Africa, stating that a wealthy Mohammedan 'Shitta' building a most elaborate mosque at Lagos. It is to be the finest building of its kind on the West Coast. He has already spent £3,000 or \$15,000.00.

Very few of our readers may have an idea of the extent and growth of the Mohammedan religion in Africa, and that wealthy followers are raising money to send Missionaries to convert all they can in other lands, and say they have great hope for the 'Future of Islam.' You would suppose that the last place in which Mohammedanism would make any progress is in England. Yet, in Liverpool, there is active work going on. Mr. W. H. Quilliam, an Englishman, a prominent Solicitor of that city, is the head of the movement. Already, it is said, there are 120 Moslems in London, and forty in Manchester. Englishmen converted to the Faith. At Working England, there is a Mosque in connection with an Oriental Institute, and there is some talk of erecting a proper Eastern Mosque with dome and minarets in Liverpool. Within a few months the New York papers have given accounts of receptions by Alexander Russel Webb, formerly United States consul to the Philippines, prominent people being invited, and many attended, it is presumed out of curiosity to see the man who wishes to tell of his conversion—or as some would say, his return, to Mohammedanism. His expenses are paid by rich followers of this faith and he is trying to do what he can in America to propagate the religion of Mohammed.

We know that Islam for over 1,200 years has governed the Holy Land, Egypt, Syria and Northern Africa. Christians have held Political Power. But the religion of those countries is Islam. The Cross holds the Sword, but the Crescent the Book.

Queen Victoria rules over more Mohammedans than does the Sultan of Turkey, and she has at her court a Mohammedan Mundi who teaches the Oriental languages.

Bishop Taylor is doing all he can

for the Christian religion in Africa;

but it is the boast of 'Ibu Ishak'

that the domes and minarets of Islam will yet contend for the mastery with Christian spires in Liverpool and Boston. All followers of Christ should be on the alert and more thought should be given to converting the pagan of Africa.

The statement, as above given, quite startled me, and I left thinking a hundred per cent less of that bishop than before. How can any man living almost upon the very spot where the immortal Allah first hoisted our grand old banner, walk right by the sacred spot that contains the sleeping ashes of our departed father and hero, and not feel interested in the extension of the rich legacy left us by the fathers, I must confess, is a mystery to me.

Oh that the church would imbue the spirit of the laicized Bishop W. F. Dickerson, who once said: "The subject of missions is of fundamental importance. The advance and spread of the Redeemer's kingdom, the reaching out of the Gospel to take in and embrace the world, is of far more importance than the parceling out of that world which is already firmly established."

What a vast difference in the spirit

and views of these two episcopates.

One says, you are a fool if you go to Africa, and try to establish the church,

and enlighten the poor heathen, and the other calls it a work of fundamental importance.

The Mohammedan pilgrims travel

hundreds and thousands of miles

to visit the grave of their departed prophet. Some cross the great Sahara Desert; hundreds die on the way, and millions are permitted to reach Mecca and Medina, on the day of Arafat and pay homage at the grave of Mohamet. The Moslems prize Kaaba exceedingly more than Christians prize the Holy of Holies.

It is said that often there are 70,000

pilgrims present in Mecca on the day of Arafat. Some of these pilgrims have come thousands of miles, at an enormous expense, which they are only too glad to pay for what they regard as a most sacred privilege.

Mohammedans command those of their

faith a spirit of enterprise and devo-

tion, but some of our modern Chris-

tians are yielding tremendous influence in Africa—an influence that no common force or ordinary power can counter-

act. There are two large mosques in

this city (Freetown), also several large

schools where the Arabic language is

taught and the koran studied.

It was my privilege to

attend the, the Mohammedan celebra-

tion in company with the learned Dr.

E. W. Blyden, A. M., Rev. J. R. Fred-

erick and Prof. H. C. Embry.

I am prepared to confirm the truth-

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